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Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Egypt:* draft resolution

Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014, 70/210 of 22 December 2015, 71/235 of 21 December 2016 and 72/226 of 20 December 2017,

Recalling also its resolution 71/256 of 23 December 2016, entitled "New Urban Agenda", in which it endorsed the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, as contained in the annex to the above-mentioned resolution,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in *all* its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner and to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further the Paris Agreement,[1] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reiterating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

Noting that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[3] can contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Reaffirming the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

Reiterating that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders,

Reiterating also its recognition that, over the years, the responsibilities of UN-Habitat have changed considerably in their scope and complexity,

Recalling UN-Habitat Governing Council resolution 26/8 of 12 May 2017, entitled "Promoting the effective implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda",[4]

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Independent Panel to Assess and Enhance the Effectiveness of UN-Habitat,[5]

Recalling further the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at its seventy-first session, on the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the

[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/72/8), annex.

[5] A/71/1006.

positioning of UN-Habitat in that regard and the summary of that meeting prepared by the President of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitments on means of implementation included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

Acknowledging the key role of national, subnational and local governments in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, throughout the process, including policymaking, planning, design, implementation, operation and maintenance, monitoring and evaluation, as well as the financing and timely delivery of services,

Reemphasizing that the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda requires enabling policy frameworks at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels and effective means of implementation, including finance, capacity-building, mutually beneficial partnerships and the development, dissemination and diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed,

Reaffirming the importance of accountability, transparency and improved results-based management and further harmonized results-based reporting for increasing the quantity and quality of funding for operational activities, while recognizing the need to ensure an adequate quantity and quality of funding for the operational and normative activities of UN-Habitat, including its core resources, and the need to make funding more predictable, efficient and effective,

Recognizing the need to strengthen States' ownership, leadership and oversight of UN-Habitat, and considering the findings and recommendations of the open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226, including the concerns raised by States regarding the recommended reporting procedures of the Executive Board during the years when the proposed UN-Habitat Assembly does not meet,

Affirming that the focus of the work of UN-Habitat, in line with the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda, should remain within the framework of sustainable development, with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),[6]

Recognizing the World Urban Forum as the foremost global arena for interaction among policymakers, local government leaders, non-governmental stakeholders and expert practitioners in the field of human settlements, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Malaysia and to the city of Kuala Lumpur for hosting the ninth session of the Forum from 7 to 13 February 2018, which was the first session to have a thematic focus on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III,

Governance of UN-Habitat

1. *Decides*:

(a) To strengthen the intergovernmental nature and structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) as set out without prejudice to

[6] A/73/307.

the concerns regarding the reporting procedures, in the findings and recommendations of the open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226;

(b) To establish a multi-tiered intergovernmental structure for UN-Habitat that shall provide overall normative and policy guidance to UN-Habitat and oversee the operational aspects of its work; the UN-Habitat governance structure shall be composed of the following: (i) the UN-Habitat Assembly, with universal membership; (ii) the Committee of Permanent Representatives, with universal membership; and (iii) the Executive Board, consisting of 36 members;

(c) That the UN-Habitat Assembly shall replace the UN-Habitat Governing Council as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly;

(d) That the UN-Habitat Assembly shall meet in Nairobi, during a five-day period, every four years, to provide policy guidance on human settlements and sustainable urbanization and strategic oversight of UN-Habitat, and in this regard, in addition to the existing functions of the UN-Habitat Governing Council, the UN-Habitat Assembly shall, inter alia:

(i) Identify key issues and areas of focus for the normative, policy and operational work of UN-Habitat in the framework of sustainable development;

(ii) Review major trends related to human settlements and urbanization;

(iii) Examine global norms and standards in human settlements and sustainable urbanization;

(iv) Adopt resolutions, declarations, recommendations, formal decisions, reports and other documents pertaining to strategic vision and political guidance in accordance with its mandate;

(v) Recommend strategies for coherent implementation of the urban and human settlements dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other global agendas of the United Nations system;

(vi) Examine and approve the strategic plan of UN-Habitat, to be submitted by the Executive Board;

(vii) Review the Secretary-General's quadrennial report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;

(viii) Deliberate on and approve its rules of procedure and those of its subsidiary bodies;

(ix) Create other mechanisms, as deemed necessary, to facilitate its work;

(e) That the UN-Habitat Assembly shall report every four years on its work, to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session;

(f) That the UN-Habitat Assembly, at its first session, shall establish an Executive Board comprising 36 members, to be elected by the UN-Habitat Assembly according to equitable geographical representation, following the formula established for the current UN-Habitat Governing Council[7] and the mandate as set out in the findings and recommendations of the open-ended Working Group, with the objectives

[7] The Executive Board seat distribution would be as follows: 10 seats for the African Group, 8 seats for the Asia-Pacific Group, 4 seats for the Eastern European Group, 6 seats for the Latin America and Caribbean Group and 8 seats for the Western European and Others Group (findings and recommendations of the UN-Habitat open-ended Working Group, June 2018).

of increasing States' oversight of the operations of UN-Habitat and of strengthening the Organization's transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness, as well as providing greater efficiency in decision-making, building trust and attracting sufficient, sustainable and predictable funding;

(g) That the Executive Board shall report to the UN-Habitat Assembly and that, when the latter is not in session, the Executive Board shall report to the Committee of Permanent Representatives, as appropriate, and submit periodic reports to the General Assembly through the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Economic and Social Council at its substantive sessions on questions that fall within the Board's mandate;

2. *Emphasizes* that States that are not members of the Executive Board may participate in the deliberations as observers to Board meetings, through their permanent missions in Nairobi or otherwise;

3. *Also emphasizes* that representatives of specialized agencies as well as funds and programmes of the United Nations system may participate in the deliberations as observers to Board meetings;

4. *Decides* to strengthen the role of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in order to preserve the intergovernmental nature of UN-Habitat, and in that regard also decides that the Committee of Permanent Representatives shall convene in Nairobi, unless otherwise agreed, at least twice a year, when the Assembly is not in session to consider, as appropriate, the report of the Executive Board;

5. *Also decides* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives shall report to the UN-Habitat Assembly and shall convene in Nairobi, in an open-ended manner, prior to the Assembly for preparation of the session of the Assembly and for a high-level midterm review meeting;

6. *Further decides* that the UN-Habitat Assembly, with the objective of ensuring consistency in its overall policy guidance, shall establish clear and effective linkages between the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Executive Board;

Ensuring adequate funding and improving information to monitor funding trends

7. *Decides* that the additional financial resources required, including to service the new intergovernmental governance processes of UN-Habitat, shall be funded from the regular budget and approved by the General Assembly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for its approval during the main part of its seventy-third session a report containing a revised proposal on regular budget resources approved for the biennium 2018–2019 for the intergovernmental governance of UN-Habitat, in accordance with all relevant United Nations rules and regulations;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to submit to the UN-Habitat Assembly, at its first session, a draft strategic plan, for the Assembly's approval;

10. *Requests* the UN-Habitat Assembly to ensure that the Executive Director of UN-Habitat submits to the UN-Habitat Executive Board, at its first session, a draft work programme and budget for 2020, including an organization chart, for the Board's approval;

11. *Invites* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary non-earmarked

20. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its collaboration with international and regional development banks and the private sector to ensure coherence of policy support and the alignment of large-scale urban investments with the principles of the New Urban Agenda and to facilitate increased investment in sustainable urbanization;

Review and implementation

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a special voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting developing countries in attending UN-Habitat Assembly and Executive Board sessions, and invites States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution entitled "Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".